



Healthy Watersheds Partnership

May 12, 2021 Meeting

9:30 am – 11:30 am

REMOTE ATTENDANCE ONLY

Remote attendance details provided below



Meeting Notes

Item	Time	Topic
1	9:30 am	Welcome, Roll Call, Announcements & Updates (Anna Holder)
2	9:45 am	Beta Streamflow Duration Assessment Method for the Arid West (Joe Morgan, Raphael Mazor) <u>Purpose:</u> Provide an overview of the Beta Streamflow Duration Assessment Method (SDAM) for the Arid West, get feedback on SDAM methodology & flow indicators; discussion of integration with HWP assessment. <u>Background:</u> Joe Morgan (EPA Region 9) and Raphael Mazor (SCCWRP) will present on the Beta Streamflow Duration Assessment Method (SDAM) for the Arid West. The SDAM is a rapid assessment to distinguish between ephemeral, intermittent, and perennial streams in the Arid West ecoregion. The SDAM uses field-based biological indicators of streamflow (hydrophytic plant species, aquatic macroinvertebrates, algae, and fish) to classify streams. A beta method was released in late March and will be refined after a one-year trial period; it is primarily intended to implement the flow duration definitions under the federal Navigable Waters Protection Rule. <u>Notes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Discussion topics included:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Questions and feedback on SDAM development & methodology○ Incorporating SDAM into future HWP assessments○ Other SDAM monitoring applications○ See presentation slides and the meeting recording for more details. <u>Action Items:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Contact Joseph Morgan (morgan.joseph@epa.gov) or Raphael Mazor (raphaelm@sccwrp.org) with additional questions or ideas.

Item	Time	Topic
3	10:30 am	Developing a Stream Gaging Prioritization Plan under Senate Bill 19 (Valerie Zimmer, Todd Carlin, Rob Sherrick, Mike Fuller, Dan Schultz)

Purpose: The SB19 team is in the process of developing a prioritization for future stream gages in California. This includes rapidly evaluating and selecting input datasets, developing a prioritization scheme, and hopefully a tool that can be updated and used in the future. We would like to present the current status of our effort and solicit feedback from the Healthy Watersheds Partnership.

Background: The state recognizes the importance of stream gaging information. A robust and reliable stream gage network can help state, federal, and local agencies manage water resources and conserve freshwater species more effectively for multiple benefits and help to avoid conflicts. [Senate Bill No. 19](#) (SB 19) (Statutes of 2019, Chapter 361, Dodd) enacts Water Code section 144, which directs the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to develop a plan to address gaging information gaps through the deployment of a network of prioritized stream gages in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Department of Conservation (DOC), the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Flood Board), and interested stakeholders. The [stream gaging plan](#) will identify significant gaps in the stream gaging network to meet the wide variety of water management needs, which are increasingly important in the face of a changing climate. It is anticipated it will take two years to develop the plan.

Notes:

- Discussion topics included:
 - Potential data layers use
 - Potential connections, collaboration, outreach opportunities with HWP members
 - Advice on water quality or reference gage prioritization
 - See the [presentation slides](#) and the [meeting recording](#) for more details.

Action Items:

- Contact the SB 19 Core Team (StreamGagingPlan@waterboards.ca.gov) with additional questions, comments, or discussion on the presentation or related topics.

Item	Time	Topic
4	11:15 am	<p>Watershed Assessment and Dashboard Update (Anna Holder)</p> <p><u>Purpose:</u> To provide an update on the progress of the HWP watershed assessment and landscape assessment dashboard.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Progress is based on the landscape assessment tool work plan, literature review, conceptual model and dataset discussions since the May 2019 HWP meeting.</p> <p><u>Notes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brief update on the development of the HWP landscape assessment dashboard. ● See the presentation slides and the meeting recording for more details. ● Next steps include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assess feasibility of replicating 2013 Assessment datasets, methods, etc. ○ Establishing and convening a TAC <p><u>Action Items:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contact Anna Holder (anna.holder@waterboards.ca.gov) if you are interested in contributing to the HWP Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

Item	Time	Topic
5	11:20 am	<p>Brainstorm Future Meeting Ideas (Anna Holder)</p> <p><u>Purpose:</u> Brainstorm topics and speakers the HWP would like to hear about or discuss during future HWP meetings.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Topics discussed during the Feb 2021 meeting include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US Forest Service watershed assessment report cards ● CDFW California Monitoring and Assessment Program Presentation ● Social/Racial/Environmental Justice datasets & nexus with HWP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recommend viewing March 18th Water Data Seminar Series Recording: Exploring the Legacy of Redlining in California with OpenData and Open Source Tools <p><u>Notes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Skipped brainstorm due to lack of time. <p><u>Action Items:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contact Anna Holder (anna.holder@waterboards.ca.gov) with any ideas for future agenda items or meeting topic ideas.
6	11:25 am	<p>Wrap up (Anna Holder)</p> <p><u>Purpose:</u> Review action items, next steps.</p>
7	11:30 am	Adjourn